THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 9.9.2002, Air Seychelles flight HM 017 left Mumbai Airport at the scheduled time for Male and Seychelles. 30 minuts before approach of Male Airport, a passenger by name Shri Chandra Basu Sashi Raj, threatened one of the Air hostesses with a knife and wanted to enter the cockpit forcibly. He was overpowered by the crew of the aircraft and on arrival at Male Airport, he was handed over to the Male Authorities.The investigation has revealed that this was on act of individual of unstable mind.

(c) To further tighten security, BCAS has reiterated instructions regarding secondary ladder point checks to all airlines.

Indians Imprisoned in foreign jails

1537. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians imprisoned in foreign jails as on date;

(b) the number of prisoners in jails morethan five and ten years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government of India to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b)The number of Indians imprisoned in foreign jails is 8994. The period of their imprisonment is not available with the Government.

(c) Indian Missions abroad liaise with the host Government for speedy and fair trail. Legal advice is provided wherever relevant and all attempts to obtain remission of sentence, commutation or pardon are made where the law of the receiving State permits.

Latest equipments installed at airports to fight terrorism

1538. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Home Minister and the Civil Aviation authorities are bringing in the latest technology in bi-metrics to fight terrorism;